

REMARKS

This application (the "'371") is involved in pending Interference No. 104,154.

Support for claim 81 is found throughout the '371 specification and claims as first filed with the specification (hereinafter "as first filed"). The '371 specification, including examples, is directed to aqueous suspensions of stabilized microbubbles comprising amphiphilic surfactant (e.g., pp. 1, 6-7 ("suspension of microbubbles . . . stabilized by the presence of the surfactants in lamellar form") 8-9, 10 ("surfactant ... can be selected from all amphipatic compounds"), 12, 13; examples 2, 4 and 9; claims 1 and 7), wherein the amphiphilic surfactant entrap the gases (e.g., pp. 12, ("surfactants in lamellar form containing trapped...gas...for microbubble formation"; "gas entrapment [sic] by the laminated surfactants"; "gas...entrapped within the surfactant"), 13 ("gas trapped during manufacture of the dry powder"), and examples 2, 4, and 9). The '371 application discloses that these gases include physiologically acceptable organic compound gas containing one or more carbon atoms and fluorine through its disclosure of the use of "physiologically acceptable gases like...freon" since "freon" has been defined as "organic compound gas containing one or more carbon atoms and fluorine". E.I. DuPont DeNemours and Company, "Freon" Fluorocarbons: Properties and Applications, Freon Product Information.

Support for claim 82 is found throughout the '371 specification and claims as first filed. The '371 specification, including examples, is directed to aqueous suspensions of stabilized microbubbles comprising amphiphilic surfactant (e.g., pp. 1, 6-7 ("suspension of microbubbles . . . stabilized by the presence of the surfactants in lamellar form") 8-9, 10 ("surfactant ... can be selected from all amphipatic compounds"), 12, 13; examples 2, 4 and 9; claims 1 and 7), wherein the amphiphilic surfactant entrap the gases (e.g., pp. 12,

("surfactants in lamellar form containing trapped...gas...for microbubble formation"; "gas entrappment [sic] by the laminated surfactants"; "gas...entrapped within the surfactant"), 13 ("gas trapped during manufacture of the dry powder"), and examples 2, 4, and 9). These surfactants are film forming (e.g. pp. 5 ("the surfactants...are in the form of thin films involving one or more molecular layers"; "filrm forming surfactants"), 10 ("film forming surfactants"). The '371 application discloses that these gases include physiologically acceptable organic compound gas containing one or more carbon atoms and fluorine through its disclosure of the use of "physiologically acceptable gases like...freon" since "freon" has been defined as "organic compound gas containing one or more carbon atoms and fluorine". E.I. DuPont DeNemours and Company, "Freon" Fluorocarbons: Properties and Applications, Freon Product Information.

Support for claim 83 is found throughout the '371 specification and claims as first filed. The '371 specification, including examples, is directed to aqueous suspensions of stabilized microbubbles comprising amphiphilic surfactant (e.g., pp. 1, 6-7 ("suspension of microbubbles . . . stabilized by the presence of the surfactants in lamellar form") 8-9, 10 ("surfactant ... can be selected from all amhipatic compounds"), 12, 13; examples 2, 4 and 9; claims 1 and 7), wherein the amphiphilic surfactant entrap the gases (e.g., pp. 12, ("surfactants in lamellar form containing trapped...gas...for microbubble formation"; "gas entrappment [sic] by the laminated surfactants"; "gas...entrapped within the surfactant"), 13 ("gas trapped during manufacture of the dry powder"), and examples 2, 4, and 9). The amphiphilic surfactant is capable of forming stable films in the presence of water and gas. (e.g., p. 10 ("surfactant...can be selected from all amhipatic compounds capable of formign stable films in the presence of water and gases.") The '371 application discloses that these

gases include physiologically acceptable organic compound gas containing one or more carbon atoms and fluorine through its disclosure of the use of "physiologically acceptable gases like...freon" since "freon" has been defined as "organic compound gas containing one or more carbon atoms and fluorine". E.I. DuPont DeNemours and Company, "Freon" Fluorocarbons: Properties and Applications, Freon Product Information.

Support for claim 84 is found throughout the '371 specification and claims as first filed. The '371 specification, including examples, is directed to aqueous suspensions of stabilized microbubbles comprising amphiphilic surfactant (e.g., pp. 1, 6-7 ("suspension of microbubbles . . . stabilized by the presence of the surfactants in lamellar form") 8-9, 10 ("surfactant ... can be selected from all amphipatic compounds"), 12, 13; examples 2, 4 and 9; claims 1 and 7), wherein the amphiphilic surfactant entrap the gases (e.g., pp. 12, ("surfactants in lamellar form containing trapped...gas...for microbubble formation"; "gas entrappment [sic] by the laminated surfactants"; "gas...entrapped within the surfactant"), 13 ("gas trapped during manufacture of the dry powder"), and examples 2, 4, and 9). The amphiphilic surfactant is in the form of thin films involving one or more molecular layers" (e.g., p. 5 ("surfactants...are in the form of thin films involving one or more molecular layers"). The '371 application discloses that these gases include physiologically acceptable organic compound gas containing one or more carbon atoms and fluorine through its disclosure of the use of "physiologically acceptable gases like...freon" since "freon" has been defined as "organic compound gas containing one or more carbon atoms and fluorine". E.I. DuPont DeNemours and Company, "Freon" Fluorocarbons: Properties and Applications, Freon Product Information.

Support for claim 85 is found throughout the '371 specification and claims as first filed. The '371 specification, including examples, is directed to aqueous suspensions of stabilized microbubbles comprising amphiphilic surfactant (e.g., pp. 1, 6-7 ("suspension of microbubbles . . . stabilized by the presence of the surfactants in lamellar form") 8-9, 10 ("surfactant ... can be selected from all amphipatic compounds"), 12, 13; examples 2, 4 and 9; claims 1 and 7), wherein the amphiphilic surfactant entrap the gases (e.g., pp. 12, ("surfactants in lamellar form containing trapped...gas...for microbubble formation"; "gas entrappment [sic] by the laminated surfactants"; "gas...entrapped within the surfactant"), 13 ("gas trapped during manufacture of the dry powder"), and examples 2, 4, and 9). The amphiphilic surfactant is in the form of mono- or pluri- molecular membrane layers. (e.g., claim 2 ("mono- or pluri- molecular membrane layers"). The '371 application discloses that these gases include physiologically acceptable organic compound gas containing one or more carbon atoms and fluorine through its disclosure of the use of "physiologically acceptable gases like...freon" since "freon" has been defined as "organic compound gas containing one or more carbon atoms and fluorine". E.I. DuPont DeNemours and Company, "Freon" Fluorocarbons: Properties and Applications, Freon Product Information.

Support for claim 86 is found throughout the '371 specification and claims as first filed. The '371 specification, including examples, is directed to aqueous suspensions of stabilized microbubbles comprising amphiphilic phospholipid surfactant (e.g., pp. 1, 6-7 ("suspension of microbubbles . . . stabilized by the presence of the surfactants in lamellar form") 8-9, 10 ("surfactant ... can be selected from all amphipatic compounds...preferred surfactants...include...phospholipids"), 12, 13; examples 2, 4 and 9; claims 1 and 7), wherein the amphiphilic surfactant entrap the gases (e.g., pp. 12, ("surfactants in lamellar

form containing trapped...gas...for microbubble formation"; "gas entrappment [sic] by the laminated surfactants"; "gas...entrapped within the surfactant"), 13 ("gas trapped during manufacture of the dry powder"), and examples 2, 4, and 9). The '371 application discloses that these gases include physiologically acceptable organic compound gas containing one or more carbon atoms and fluorine through its disclosure of the use of "physiologically acceptable gases like...freon" since "freon" has been defined as "organic compound gas containing one or more carbon atoms and fluorine". E.I. DuPont DeNemours and Company, "Freon" Fluorocarbons: Properties and Applications, Freon Product Information.

Support for claim 87 is found throughout the '371 specification and claims as first filed. The '371 specification, including examples, is directed to aqueous suspensions of stabilized microbubbles comprising amphiphilic phospholipid surfactant (e.g., pp. 1, 6-7 ("suspension of microbubbles . . . stabilized by the presence of the surfactants in lamellar form") 8-9, 10 ("surfactant ... can be selected from all amphipatic compounds...preferred surfactants...include...phospholipids"), 12, 13; examples 2, 4 and 9; claims 1 and 7), wherein the amphiphilic surfactant entrap the gases (e.g., pp. 12, ("surfactants in lamellar form containing trapped...gas...for microbubble formation"; "gas entrappment [sic] by the laminated surfactants"; "gas...entrapped within the surfactant"), 13 ("gas trapped during manufacture of the dry powder"), and examples 2, 4, and 9). More than one phospholipid surfactants can be used. (e.g., pp. 8 ("mixture of surfactants"), examples 1, 2, 6). The '371 application discloses that these gases include physiologically acceptable organic compound gas containing one or more carbon atoms and fluorine through its disclosure of the use of "physiologically acceptable gases like...freon" since "freon" has been defined as "organic compound gas containing one or more carbon atoms and fluorine". E.I. DuPont DeNemours

and Company, "Freon" Fluorocarbons: Properties and Applications, Freon Product Information.

Support for claims 88 and 89 are found throughout the '371 specification and claims as first filed. The '371 specification, including examples, is directed to aqueous suspensions of stabilized microbubbles comprising amphiphilic phospholipid surfactant (e.g., pp. 1, 6-7 ("suspension of microbubbles . . . stabilized by the presence of the surfactants in lamellar form") 8-9, 10 ("surfactant ... can be selected from all amphoteric compounds...preferred surfactants...include...phospholipids"), 12, 13; examples 2, 4 and 9; claims 1 and 7), wherein the amphiphilic surfactant entrap the gases (e.g., pp. 12, ("surfactants in lamellar form containing trapped...gas...for microbubble formation"; "gas entrapment [sic] by the laminated surfactants"; "gas...entrapped within the surfactant"), 13 ("gas trapped during manufacture of the dry powder"), and examples 2, 4, and 9). The phospholipid may be selected from the group consisting of "lecithins (phosphatidyl-choline) and other phospholipids, inter alia phosphatidic acid (PA), phosphatidyl-inositol phosphatidyl-ethanolamine (PE), phosphatidyl-serine (PS), phosphatidyl-glycerol (PG), cardiolipin (CL), sphingomyelins, the plasmogens, and the cerebroside" (p. 10). The '371 application discloses that these gases include physiologically acceptable organic compound gas containing one or more carbon atoms and fluorine through its disclosure of the use of "physiologically acceptable gases like...freon" since "freon" has been defined as "organic compound gas containing one or more carbon atoms and fluorine". E.I. DuPont DeNemours and Company, "Freon" Fluorocarbons: Properties and Applications, Freon Product Information.

Support for claim 90 is found throughout the '371 specification and claims as first filed with the specification. The '371 specification, including examples, is directed to

aqueous suspensions of stabilized microbubbles comprising amphiphilic surfactant (e.g., pp. 1, 6-7 ("suspension of microbubbles . . . stabilized by the presence of the surfactants in lamellar form") 8-9, 10 ("surfactant ... can be selected from all amphipatic compounds"), 12, 13; examples 2, 4 and 9; claims 1 and 7). The '371 application discloses that these gases include physiologically acceptable organic compound gas containing one or more carbon atoms and fluorine through its disclosure of the use of "physiologically acceptable gases like...freon" since "freon" has been defined as "organic compound gas containing one or more carbon atoms and fluorine". E.I. DuPont DeNemours and Company, "Freon" Fluorocarbons: Properties and Applications, Freon Product Information.

Support for claim 91 is found throughout the '371 specification and claims as first filed with the specification. The '371 specification, including examples, is directed to aqueous suspensions of stabilized microbubbles comprising amphiphilic surfactant (e.g., pp. 1, 6-7 ("suspension of microbubbles . . . stabilized by the presence of the surfactants in lamellar form") 8-9, 10 ("surfactant ... can be selected from all amphipatic compounds"), 12, 13; examples 2, 4 and 9; claims 1 and 7). These surfactants are film forming (e.g. pp. 5 ("the surfactants...are in the form of thin films involving one or more molecular layers"; "film forming surfactants"), 10 ("film forming surfactants"). The '371 application discloses that these gases include physiologically acceptable organic compound gas containing one or more carbon atoms and fluorine through its disclosure of the use of "physiologically acceptable gases like...freon" since "freon" has been defined as "organic compound gas containing one or more carbon atoms and fluorine". E.I. DuPont DeNemours and Company, "Freon" Fluorocarbons: Properties and Applications, Freon Product Information.

Support for claim 92 is found throughout the '371 specification and claims as first filed with the specification. The '371 specification, including examples, is directed to aqueous suspensions of stabilized microbubbles comprising amphiphilic surfactant (e.g., pp. 1, 6-7 ("suspension of microbubbles . . . stabilized by the presence of the surfactants in lamellar form") 8-9, 10 ("surfactant ... can be selected from all amphipatic compounds"), 12, 13; examples 2, 4 and 9; claims 1 and 7). The amphiphilic surfactant is capable of forming stable films in the presence of water and gas (e.g., p. 10 ("surfactant...can be selected from all amphipatic compounds capable of formign stable films in the presence of water and gases.") The '371 application discloses that these gases include physiologically acceptable organic compound gas containing one or more carbon atoms and fluorine through its disclosure of the use of "physiologically acceptable gases like...freon" since "freon" has been defined as "organic compound gas containing one or more carbon atoms and fluorine". E.I. DuPont DeNemours and Company, "Freon" Fluorocarbons: Properties and Applications, Freon Product Information.

Support for claim 93 is found throughout the '371 specification and claims as first filed with the specification. The '371 specification, including examples, is directed to aqueous suspensions of stabilized microbubbles comprising amphiphilic surfactant (e.g., pp. 1, 6-7 ("suspension of microbubbles . . . stabilized by the presence of the surfactants in lamellar form") 8-9, 10 ("surfactant ... can be selected from all amphipatic compounds"), 12, 13; examples 2, 4 and 9; claims 1 and 7). The amphiphilic surfactant is in the form of thin films involving one or more molecular layers (e.g., p. 5 ("surfactants...are in the form of thin films involving one or more molecular layers"). The '371 application discloses that these gases include physiologically acceptable organic compound gas containing one or more

carbon atoms and fluorine through its disclosure of the use of "physiologically acceptable gases like...freon" since "freon" has been defined as "organic compound gas containing one or more carbon atoms and fluorine". E.I. DuPont DeNemours and Company, "Freon" Fluorocarbons: Properties and Applications, Freon Product Information.

Support for claim 94 is found throughout the '371 specification and claims as first filed with the specification. The '371 specification, including examples, is directed to aqueous suspensions of stabilized microbubbles comprising amphiphilic surfactant (e.g., pp. 1, 6-7 ("suspension of microbubbles . . . stabilized by the presence of the surfactants in lamellar form") 8-9, 10 ("surfactant ... can be selected from all amphipatic compounds"), 12, 13; examples 2, 4 and 9; claims 1 and 7). The amphiphilic surfactant is in the form of mono- or pluri- molecular membrane layers. (e.g., claim 2 ("mono- or pluri- molecular membrane layers"). The '371 application discloses that these gases include physiologically acceptable organic compound gas containing one or more carbon atoms and fluorine through its disclosure of the use of "physiologically acceptable gases like...freon" since "freon" has been defined as "organic compound gas containing one or more carbon atoms and fluorine". E.I. DuPont DeNemours and Company, "Freon" Fluorocarbons: Properties and Applications, Freon Product Information.

Support for claim 95 is found throughout the '371 specification and claims as first filed with the specification. The '371 specification, including examples, is directed to aqueous suspensions of stabilized microbubbles comprising amphiphilic phospholipid surfactant (e.g., pp. 1, 6-7 ("suspension of microbubbles . . . stabilized by the presence of the surfactants in lamellar form") 8-9, 10 ("surfactant ... can be selected from all amphipatic compounds...preferred surfactants...include...phospholipids"), 12, 13; examples 2, 4 and 9;

claims 1 and 7). The '371 application discloses that these gases include physiologically acceptable organic compound gas containing one or more carbon atoms and fluorine through its disclosure of the use of "physiologically acceptable gases like...freon" since "freon" has been defined as "organic compound gas containing one or more carbon atoms and fluorine". E.I. DuPont DeNemours and Company, "Freon" Fluorocarbons: Properties and Applications, Freon Product Information.

Support for claim 96 is found throughout the '371 specification and claims as first filed with the specification. The '371 specification, including examples, is directed to aqueous suspensions of stabilized microbubbles comprising amphiphilic phospholipid surfactant (e.g., pp. 1, 6-7 ("suspension of microbubbles . . . stabilized by the presence of the surfactants in lamellar form") 8-9, 10 ("surfactant ... can be selected from all amphipatic compounds...preferred surfactants...include...phospholipids"), 12, 13; examples 2, 4 and 9; claims 1 and 7). More than one phospholipid surfactants can be used. (e.g., pp. 8 ("mixture of surfactants"), examples 1, 2, 6). The '371 application discloses that these gases include physiologically acceptable organic compound gas containing one or more carbon atoms and fluorine through its disclosure of the use of "physiologically acceptable gases like...freon" since "freon" has been defined as "organic compound gas containing one or more carbon atoms and fluorine". E.I. DuPont DeNemours and Company, "Freon" Fluorocarbons: Properties and Applications, Freon Product Information

Support for claim 97 and 98 is found throughout the '371 specification and claims as first filed with the specification. The '371 specification, including examples, is directed to aqueous suspensions of stabilized microbubbles comprising amphiphilic phospholipid surfactant (e.g., pp. 1, 6-7 ("suspension of microbubbles . . . stabilized by the presence of

the surfactants in lamellar form") 8-9, 10 ("surfactant ... can be selected from all amphipatic compounds...preferred surfactants...include...phospholipids"), 12, 13; examples 2, 4 and 9; claims 1 and 7). The phospholipid may be selected from the group consisting of "lecithins (phosphatidyl-choline) and other phospholipids, inter alia phosphatidic acid (PA), phosphatidyl-inositol phosphatidyl-ethanolamine (PE), phosphatidyl-serine (PS), phosphatidyl-glycerol (PG), cardiolipin (CL), sphingomyelins, the plasmogens, and the cerebroside" (p. 10). The '371 application discloses that these gases include physiologically acceptable organic compound gas containing one or more carbon atoms and fluorine through its disclosure of the use of "physiologically acceptable gases like...freon" since "freon" has been defined as "organic compound gas containing one or more carbon atoms and fluorine". E.I. DuPont DeNemours and Company, "Freon" Fluorocarbons: Properties and Applications, Freon Product Information.

Support for claim 99 is found throughout the '371 specification and claims as first filed with the specification. The '371 specification, including examples, is directed to aqueous suspensions of stabilized microbubbles comprising amphiphilic phospholipid surfactant (e.g., pp. 1, 6-7 ("suspension of microbubbles . . . stabilized by the presence of the surfactants in lamellar form") 8-9, 10 ("surfactant ... can be selected from all amphipatic compounds"), 12, 13; examples 2, 4 and 9; claims 1 and 7). These microbubbles are used as contrast agents. (e.g. pp. 1 "compositions are mostly usable as contrast agents"), example 8). The amphiphilic surfactant is in the form of mono- or pluri- molecular membrane layers. (e.g., claim 2 ("mono- or pluri- molecular membrane layers"). The '371 application discloses that these gases include physiologically acceptable organic compound gas containing one or more carbon atoms and fluorine through its disclosure of the use of "physiologically

acceptable gases like...freon" since "freon" has been defined as "organic compound gas containing one or more carbon atoms and fluorine". E.I. DuPont DeNemours and Company, "Freon" Fluorocarbons: Properties and Applications, Freon Product Information.

Support for claim 100 is found throughout the '371 specification and claims as first filed with the specification. The '371 specification, including examples, is directed to aqueous suspensions of stabilized microbubbles comprising amphiphilic phospholipid surfactant (e.g., pp. 1, 6-7 ("suspension of microbubbles . . . stabilized by the presence of the surfactants in lamellar form") 8-9, 10 ("surfactant ... can be selected from all amphipatic compounds"), 12, 13; examples 2, 4 and 9; claims 1 and 7), wherein the amphiphilic surfactant entrap the gases (e.g., pp. 12, ("surfactants in lamellar form containing trapped...gas...for microbubble formation"; "gas entrappment [sic] by the laminated surfactants"; "gas...entrapped within the surfactant"), 13 ("gas trapped during manufacture of the dry powder"), and examples 2, 4, and 9). These microbubbles are used as contrast agents (e.g., pp. 1 ("compositions are mostly usable as contrast agents"), example 8) and the '371 application also discloses the process for preparing such contrast agents (e.g., pp. 6 ("to achieve the suspensions of microbubbles according to the invention, one may start..."), 7, 8 ("an advantageous method is to contact dry surfactant in lamellar or thin film form with air or an adsorbable or entrappable gas"), 9, 13, examples 1-7, 9, and original method claims 11-17). The '371 application discloses that these gases include physiologically acceptable organic compound gas containing one or more carbon atoms and fluorine through its disclosure of the use of "physiologically acceptable gases like...freon" since "freon" has been defined as "organic compound gas containing one or more carbon atoms and fluorine". E.I.

DuPont DeNemours and Company, "Freon" Fluorocarbons: Properties and Applications, Freon Product Information.

Support for claim 101 is found throughout the '371 specification and claims as first filed with the specification. The '371 specification, including examples, is directed to aqueous suspensions of stabilized microbubbles comprising amphiphilic phospholipid surfactant (e.g., pp. 1, 6-7 ("suspension of microbubbles . . . stabilized by the presence of the surfactants in lamellar form") 8-9, 10 ("surfactant ... can be selected from all amphipatic compounds"), 12, 13; examples 2, 4 and 9; claims 1 and 7). These microbubbles are used as contrast agents (e.g., pp. 1 ("compositions are mostly usable as contrast agents"), example 8) and the '371 application also discloses the process for preparing such contrast agents (e.g., pp. 6 ("to achieve the suspensions of microbubbles according to the invention, one may start..."), 7, 8 ("an advantageous method is to contact dry surfactant in lamellar or thin film form with air or an adsorbable or entrappable gas"), 9, 13, examples 1-7, 9, and original method claims 11-17). The '371 application discloses that these gases include physiologically acceptable organic compound gas containing one or more carbon atoms and fluorine through its disclosure of the use of "physiologically acceptable gases like...freon" since "freon" has been defined as "organic compound gas containing one or more carbon atoms and fluorine".

E.I. DuPont DeNemours and Company, "Freon" Fluorocarbons: Properties and Applications, Freon Product Information.

Support for claims 102 and 103 are found throughout the '371 specification and claims as first filed with the specification. The '371 specification, including examples, is directed to aqueous suspensions of stabilized microbubbles comprising amphiphilic surfactant (e.g., pp. 1, 6-7 ("suspension of microbubbles . . . stabilized by the presence of the surfactants in

lamellar form") 8-9, 10 ("surfactant ... can be selected from all amphipatic compounds"), 12, 13; examples 2, 4 and 9; claims 1 and 7), wherein the amphiphilic surfactant entrap the gases (e.g., pp. 12, ("surfactants in lamellar form containing trapped...gas...for microbubble formation"; "gas entrappment [sic] by the laminated surfactants"; "gas...entrapped within the surfactant"), 13 ("gas trapped during manufacture of the dry powder"), and examples 2, 4, and 9). These microbubbles are used as contrast agents to enhance ultrasound images by administering to a subject the agent and then obtaining an ultrasonic image of the subject (e.g., pp. 1 ("compositions are mostly usable as contrast agents in ultrasonic echography to image the inside of blood-stream vessels"), example 8). The '371 application discloses that these gases include physiologically acceptable organic compound gas containing one or more carbon atoms and fluorine through its disclosure of the use of "physiologically acceptable gases like...freon" since "freon" has been defined as "organic compound gas containing one or more carbon atoms and fluorine". E.I. DuPont DeNemours and Company, "Freon" Fluorocarbons: Properties and Applications, Freon Product Information.

Support for claim 104 is found throughout the '371 specification and claims as first filed with the specification. The '371 specification, including examples, is directed to aqueous suspensions of stabilized microbubbles comprising amphiphilic surfactant (e.g., pp. 1, 6-7 ("suspension of microbubbles . . . stabilized by the presence of the surfactants in lamellar form") 8-9, 10 ("surfactant ... can be selected from all amphipatic compounds"), 12, 13; examples 2, 4 and 9; claims 1 and 7). These microbubbles are used as contrast agents to enhance ultrasound images by administering to a subject the agent and then obtaining an ultrasonic image of the subject (e.g., pp. 1 ("compositions are mostly usable as contrast agents in ultrasonic echography to image the inside of blood-stream vessels"), example 8).

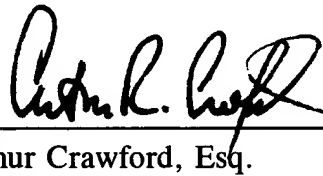
Support for claim 110 is found throughout the '371 specification and claims as first filed with the specification. In particular, claim 110 is a product by process claim which claims the product produced by the steps recited in Example 6 of the '371 application.

Support for claim 111 is found throughout the '371 specification and claims as first filed with the specification. In particular, claim 111 is a product by process claim which claims the product produced by the steps recited in Example 7 of the '371 application.

The Applicants respectfully state that these claims are patentable because they meet the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, as shown supra, and the Applicants are not aware of any prior art that would invalidate them. To Applicants' knowledge, no single prior art reference contains all of the elements of the claims and no combination of references would provide the claimed inventions. Early and favorable action on the claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Creation date: 07-19-2005
Indexing Officer: LCHEO - LEE CHEO
Team: OIPEBackFileIndexing
Dossier: 08893371

Legal Date: 09-30-2003

No.	Doccode	Number of pages
1	CTMS	8

Total number of pages: 8

Remarks:

Order of re-scan issued on